

Traffic Calming Devices Defined

- 1. **Striping**
- 2. **Speed Cushions**
- 3. **Traffic Circles**
- 4. **Road Narrowings**
- 5. **Chicanes**

1. Striping - white lines painted on the side of the road, used for creating the visual effect of a more narrow road or for marking of a physical device.

2. Speed Cushions - made of recycled materials and rise about three inches in height, the cushions are approximately 10 feet long with spaces between each cushion to match the width of a fire engine. These spaces allow emergency vehicles through quickly by allowing them to straddle the device.

3. Traffic Circles - raised islands, placed in intersections, around which traffic circulates. Motorists yield to other motorists already in the intersection. It requires drivers to slow to a speed that allows them to comfortably maneuver around the circle.

4. Road Narrowings or Chokers - curb extensions at midblock or intersection corners that narrow a street by extending the sidewalk or widening the planting strip.

5. Chicanes - a series of narrowings or curb extensions that alternate from one side of the street to the other forming S-shaped curves. Typically, a series of at least three curb extensions are constructed.

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FINN HILL TRANSPORTATION UPDATE



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Councilmember Jane Hague March, 2003

Finn Hill Transportation Update

Dear Finn Hill Neighbors:

Important transportation projects will take place in your neighborhood throughout 2003. On February 6th, I held a District 11 meeting with staff from the King County Roads Division to discuss two key traffic calming projects on 84th Avenue NE, and we will need your approval to make them happen. Our next meeting will determine the final options for construction of these transportation projects. The **neighborhood meeting** will be held **at 7:00pm** on:



Thursday, March 27, 2003
St. John Vianney Church's Social Hall
(main entrance level past auditorium)
12600 - 84th Avenue NE
Kirkland, WA 98034

Please see the inside of this newsletter for a listing of traffic solutions discussed at February's meeting.

If you have questions regarding any of the transportation projects or about other King County issues, please feel free to contact me at (206) 296-1011 or jane.hague@metrokc.gov. Please check out your District 11 website for updates on these projects and other news from around the County at www.metrokc.gov/hague.

With warm regards,



METROPOLITAN
KING COUNTY
COUNCIL
DISTRICT 11

84th Avenue NE Corridor Study

The first project discussed at February's meeting was the 84th Avenue NE corridor study that focused on pedestrian safety around schools. The Roads Division performed traffic counts and found some key areas on the road where curbs could be widened or expanded, white road striping done, and potential inputting of flashing signs to provide safer crossings for children walking along 84th Avenue NE to their respective schools.

The suggested recommendations from this corridor study were presented at the meeting, and those who attended were pleased with the Roads Division's plan.

84th Avenue NE Traffic Calming, South Residential End

The second road project discussed was the study of the residential, south end of 84th Avenue NE where a fatal accident involving teens occurred last summer. Many of you have expressed intense concern about the high speeds of cars on this road, especially late on weekend nights, and the need for physical impediments to stop those attempting to "joy ride" off of the hill at the south end of 84th. The Roads Division suggested five options for physical speed impediments. Please note that the following alternatives can be combined (See diagram at right):

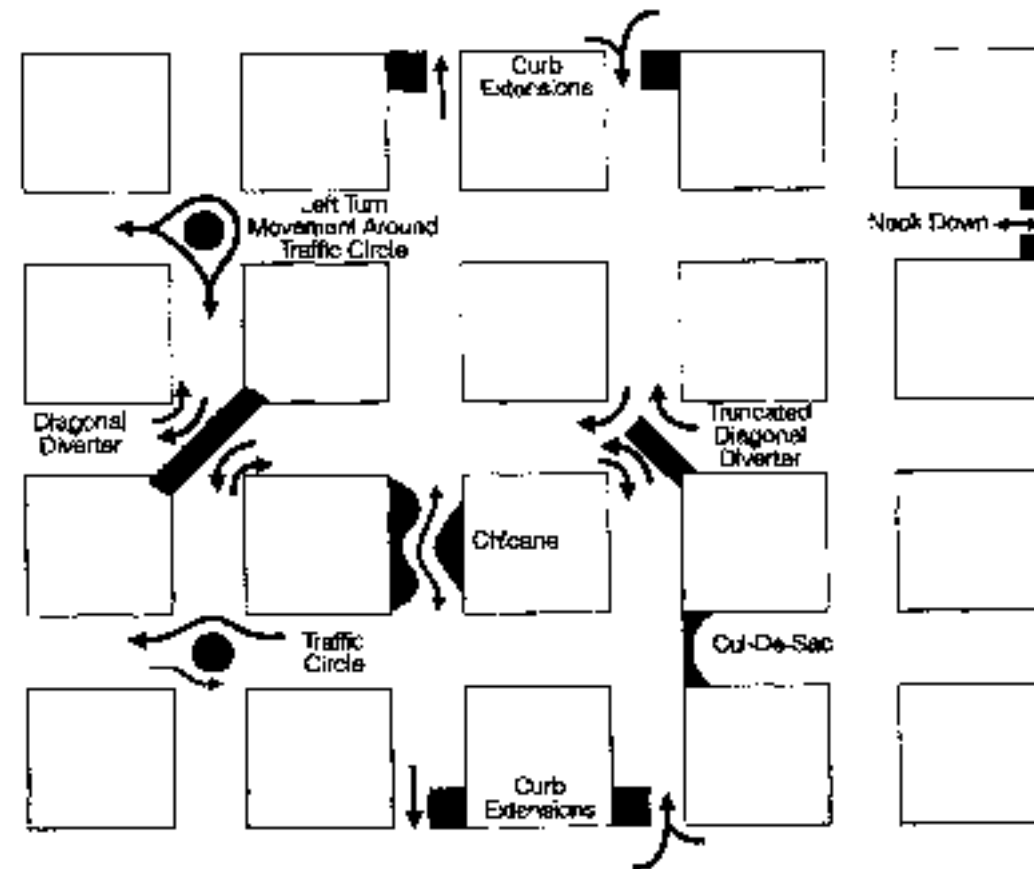
1. **Striping**
2. **Speed Cushions**

3. **Traffic Circles**
4. **Road Narrowings or Chokers**
5. **Chicanes**

Our goal for the 84th Avenue NE south-end speed impediments is to have these projects completed by high school graduation, after which safety and speed issues will increase. We all want the best for your neighborhood. And to that end, I urge your participation in these projects. The King County Department of Transportation's Roads Division typically needs a minimum of 70% neighborhood approval for such projects.

Barricade Beautification

Finally, at the February 6th meeting we discussed the NE 120th Street barricade beautification project. I have directed staff to review the adopt-a-landscape program to make it more user friendly for citizens to beautify County road barricades in their neighborhoods. We will work on finalizing this project in the coming months.



Source: www.ite.org

NOTES:

The Chicane traffic calming device is the recommended alternative for slowing down speeds in the south residential area of 84th Avenue NE.

A Choker is similar to the Neck Down shown above.